

ADF



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*Keeping the agriculture and food industries competitive through Research,
Development and Demonstration.*

Final Report

R-89-06-0529

Flax Bibliography

Funded by
The Agriculture Development Fund
April, 1991

Prepared by: POS Information Services

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R-89-06-0529 --

FLAX BIBLIOGRAPHY

1990

Prepared by POS Information Services

for

The Flax Council of Canada

with funding from

Agricultural Development Fund

Province of Saskatchewan

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1991

FLAX BIBLIOGRAPHY PROJECT

Final report

SUMMARY

This project was undertaken to update the existing Flax Bibliography which was completed in 1979. It is a comprehensive coverage of published material relating to flax and the flax industry from 1979 to 1990, with the inclusion of some additional older citations not previously reported.

TECHNICAL REPORT

Abstract

The Flax Bibliography contains over 20,000 references to research, technical papers, conference proceedings, annual reports, articles and monographs sorted alphabetically by author and listed under 25 specific categories for easy access. The material is international in scope with the article language and summary language identified when possible. Sources and locations are also noted to facilitate retrieval.

Background and Objectives

In 1979, POS compiled a flax bibliography which was very useful to a variety of flax interest groups. Obviously, although still helpful, it is outdated. From 1979 to the present a great deal of information has been added on this issue and realistically, the bibliography needed to again be upgraded and published. In September, 1989, POS presented this project to the Agriculture Development Fund for their consideration. The ADF response was positive and The Flax Council of Canada contracted POS Information Services to do this work. POS Information Services had the necessary experienced personnel and computer equipment to do the on-line searching and once the data was retrieved, it was sorted, indexed and compiled into a finished document.

Flax is a major Saskatchewan crop and the Flax Council decided this type of information would help promote greater utilization of flax and its products.

Results

A four volume, indexed flax bibliography has been compiled and bound (title page and table of contents attached). This information has also been loaded onto approximately thirty-five computer discs for use as a reference tool.

Conclusions

The on-line searching, retrieving, indexing, and compiling all went as planned. Dialog did increase their prices which added to the overall cost, however, this was our first attempt at such a large bibliography and we now realize the original estimate of on-line charges was extremely unrealistic. The editing was much more labour intensive than anticipated and required considerably more man hours than projected. We acquired a computer software package which helped somewhat but did not eliminate the necessity to edit manually. The miscellaneous section also exceeded our expectations. We expected only a few hundred miscellaneous items but retrieved thousands which resulted in escalating our on-line expenses. The transferring of the data onto computer discs was also more time consuming than expected and required more discs than expected. Unfortunately, the final total cost of this project is more than double our original estimate.

Impact on Saskatchewan Agriculture

The Western Canadian flax grower is looking to diversify and it is imperative that research information be available to avoid duplicating costly procedures and processes. Innovative uses for flax and flax products are necessary to maintain demand and this bibliography will be an excellent reference for utilization and diversification.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The bibliography consists of over one thousand pages compiled in four hard copy volumes for manual research. Copies of this document will be distributed and made available, to interested parties, by The Flax Council. Approximately thirty-five discs have also been assembled making computer access to this information available.

PERSONNEL

All staff at the POS Information Centre was involved in the bibliography and an additional five people were utilized on a casual basis for proof reading. Staff involved are as follows:

Don Hrytzak	- 4.5 hours
Betty Vankoughnett	- 150.0 hours
Marilyn Huber	- 350.0 hours
Beverley Scarrow	- 36.0 hours
Launa Enberg	- 162.5 hours
Karen Letourneau	- 194.0 hours
Paul Rouleau	- 16.5 hours

EQUIPMENT

No equipment in excess of \$500. was purchased.

FLAX BIBLIOGRAPHY

1990

In Four Volumes

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